

# List of Yoruba deities

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The following is a list of Yoruba orisha (òrìṣà), or deities.

Some in Oyo say Ọṣọ̀ọ̀sì is female, Ogun's wife.

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## Supreme being

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The Supreme God has three manifestations:

- Olodumare - The Lord God of the Source of Creation
- Olorun - The Lord God of Heaven
- Olofi - The Lord God of the Palace, conduit between Orún (Heaven) and Ayé (Earth).

## Metaphysical personifications or spirits

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- Orunmila - spirit of wisdom, divination, destiny, and foresight
- Ori - personification of one's spiritual intuition and destiny

## Àwọn òrìṣà ọkùnrin (male orishas)

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- Aganjú - orisha that was a warrior king, walked with a sword as a staff, and is associated with fire. He is not associated with volcanoes in Yorùbáland in West Africa, contrary to what is believed in Cuban-style practice of orisa.
- Ọbalúayé - orisha of the Earth and strongly associated with infectious disease and healing
- Erinlẹ - an elephant hunter and physician to the gods
- Èṣù - Èṣù is the orisha of crossroads, duality, beginnings and balance
- Ibeji - twin orisha of vitality and youth
- Lógunèdẹ - a warrior and hunter
- Ọbàtálá - creator of human bodies; orisha of light, spiritual purity, and moral uprightness
- Odùduwà - progenitor orisha of the Yorubas

- Ògún - orisha who presides over iron, fire, hunting, agriculture and war
- Okó - a hunter and farmer
- Osanyin - orisha of the forest, herbs and medicine
- Oṣùmàrè - divine rainbow serpent associated with creation and procreation
- Ọṣọ̀ọ̀sì - orisha of the hunt, forest, strategy and of the knowledge
- Ẓàngó - orisha of the thunders and lightnings
- Akògún - a warrior and hunter, wear straw

## Àwọn òrìṢà Obinrin (Female Orishas)

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- Ajé - orisha of wealth
- Ayao - orisha of air
- Yewa - orisha of the river Yewa. of the maternity and of the children
- Nàná Bùkùú - orisha of the river and of the earth
- Ọbà - first wife of Ẓàngó and orisha of domesticity and marriage
- Ọtin - orisha of river, she is hunter and wife of Erinlẹ
- Olókun - orisha of the seas
- Ọṣun - orisha who presides over love, intimacy, beauty, wealth, diplomacy and of the Ọṣun river
- Oya - orisha of the Niger River; associated with wind, lightning, fertility, fire, and magic
- Yemoja - a mother goddess; patron deity of women and of the Ogun river
- Yemowo - wife of Ọbàtálá and of the water

## Difference between Yoruba òrìṢà worship and what is practiced among Afro-Hispanics

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These are the major orisha worshipped in Santería / Regla de Ocha / Lucumí religion:

- Elegua, Yemayá (Yemoja), Oshún (Ọṣun), Shangó (Sangó), Obatalá, Oya, and Ogún etc. (missing: Elegba and Oshosi),

or:

- Elegba, Yemayá (Yemoja), Osún, Shangó (Sangó), Obatalá, Oya, and Oshoshi. (missing: Elegua and Ogún)

As one can see, Babalú-Ayé (whom "Ricky Ricardo" sings to in his famous song) is a very lesser deity in Afro-Hispanic worship.

Cuban African worship, sometimes referred to as Santería, is still widely practiced in Cuba, Puerto Rico, the Dominican Republic, Panama, Venezuela, Colombia, Tobago/Trinidad and Brazil, a number of practitioners are Yoruba descendants to certain degrees. Remnants of the Yoruba language is still used ceremoniously as a ritual language, and is referred to as Lukumí. Due to 200 years of separation from the motherland, Lukumí became a lexicon of words and is not a spoken language. Similar worship of African deities can also be found among the Afro-Franco populations of Haiti and the US state of Louisiana.

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